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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/538,832	06/13/2005	Pia Norup Nielsen	P68468USI	5175
136 7590 10/09/2007 JACOBSON HOLMAN PLLC 400 SEVENTH STREET N.W. SUITE 600 WASHINGTON, DC 20004			EXAMINER ANDERSON, CATHARINE L	
			ART UNIT 3761	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 10/09/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/538,832

Applicant(s)

NIELSEN, PIA NORUP

Examiner

C. Lynne Anderson

Art Unit

3761

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 June 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 12/21/05.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 27-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Nilsson (WO 91/00074).

Nilsson discloses a kit comprising a device for urinary catheterization, as shown in figure 1, and a pharmaceutically active composition comprising a hormone, as described on page 8, lines 3-8. The device comprises a catheter element 10 adapted to be inserted into the urethra of a female, as disclosed on page 1, lines 5-12. The pharmaceutically active agent is provided in a discrete unit dose at the tip 14 of the catheter, as shown in figure 1.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-14, and 21-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nilsson (WO 91/00074) in view of Hunter (WO 02/24246).

With respect to claims 1-2 and 14, Nilsson discloses all aspects of the claimed invention with the exception of the pharmaceutically active composition being located on the outer surface of the catheter. Nilsson discloses a device comprising a urinary catheter element 10, as shown in figure 1. The catheter 10 has a pharmaceutically active composition comprising a hormone disposed therein, as disclosed on page 8, lines 3-8. The pharmaceutically active composition is delivered to the urinary tract during catheterization, as disclosed on page 8, lines 9-16.

Hunter teaches the application of a pharmaceutically active composition on the outer surface of a urinary catheter, as disclosed on page 2, lines 23-24. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to provide the pharmaceutically active composition on the outer surface of the urinary catheter of Nilsson, since Hunter teaches the predictable result of a pharmaceutically active composition being delivered to the user when the composition is coated on the surface of the catheter.

With respect to claim 3, Hunter discloses a major part of the composition being present on the outer surface of the catheter. With respect to the device being provided in a sealed package, it is well-known in the art to provide medical devices in a sealed package prior to use to prevent contamination of a device prior to insertion into the body of a patient. It would therefore be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to seal the device of Nilsson in a package to prevent contamination.

With respect to claim 4, Hunter discloses the composition is coated over the length of the catheter element.

With respect to claim 5, Nilsson discloses the catheter is adapted for intermittent catheterization, as disclosed on page 10, lines 27-32.

With respect to claim 6, Nilsson discloses the catheter element is a female catheter, as disclosed on page 1, lines 5-8.

With respect to claims 7 and 9-10, Hunter discloses a hydrophilic coating in which the pharmaceutically active composition is impregnated, as described on page 2, lines 23-24.

With respect to claim 8, Hunter discloses a polymeric coating, as described on page 4, lines 17-18.

With respect to claim 11, Nilsson discloses depressions 15 on the outer surface, as shown in figure 1, which are adapted to hold the pharmaceutically active agent, as described on page 8, lines 3-8.

With respect to claims 12 and 13, Hunter discloses the coating is a lubricating gel, as described on page 2, lines 9-10.

With respect to claims 21-26, Nilsson discloses the use of the device to perform the method of treating a female suffering from incontinence, as disclosed on page 1, lines 5-29.

Claims 15-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nilsson (WO 91/00074) in view of Hunter (WO 02/24246), and further in view of Martan et al. ("Ultrasound imaging...", Ceska Gynekol, Jan. 1999).

Nilsson, as modified by Hunter, discloses all aspects of the claimed invention with the exception of the hormone being oestriol or oestrogen. Martan teaches the use of oestriol and oestrogen in the treatment of females suffering from incontinence (see Abstract). The oestriol or oestrogen is administered intravaginally. It would therefore be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to use oestriol or oestrogen as the hormone in the device of Nilsson, as taught by Martan, to effectively treat incontinence.

Claims 18-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nilsson (WO 91/00074) in view of Hunter (WO 02/24246), and further in view of Ottoboni et al. (6,039,967).

Nilsson, as modified by Hunter, discloses all aspects of the claimed invention with the exception of the pharmaceutically active composition being an efferent blocking agent comprising oxybutynin. Ottoboni teaches the use of oxybutynin in the treatment of incontinence, as disclosed in column 5, lines 14-16. The oxybutynin is delivered to the urinary tract by a catheter coated with the composition, as disclosed in column 7, Example 7. It would therefore be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to use oxybutynin as the pharmaceutically active composition of Nilsson, as taught by Ottoboni, to effectively treat incontinence.

Art Unit: 3761

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. U.S. Patent 5,295,984 discloses the introduction of pharmaceutical agents intravaginally.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to C. Lynne Anderson whose telephone number is (571) 272-4932. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tanya Zalukaeva can be reached on (571) 272-1115. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

CNA
cla
September 27, 2007

TATYANA ZALUKAEVA
SUPERVISORY PRIMARY EXAMINER

